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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/676,509	10/01/2003	Allegra A. May	69506	8548
25702	7590	08/26/2004	EXAMINER	
SCOTT C. RAND, ESQ. MCLANE, GRAF, RAULERSON & MIDDLETON, PA 900 ELM STREET, P.O. BOX 326 MANCHESTER, NH 03105-0326			ROVNAK, JOHN EDMUND	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			3714	

DATE MAILED: 08/26/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

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Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/676,509	MAY, ALLEGRA A.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	John E. Rovnak	3714

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM
THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 01 October 2003. ✓

2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final. /

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-30 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) 1-30 is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on 01 October 2003 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) All b) Some * c) None of:

1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 12/19/03.

4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.

5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6) Other: _____.

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Siegel.

Siegel discloses a computer-based information handling system comprising a processor for executing an application program, audio output device, and video display device including a display screen for displaying a word in a language for audible playback. A pointing device controls a cursor movable on the display screen in response to a user operating the pointing device. A memory is provided for storing a digital recording of the word for audible playback and a rollover region is associated with the word for playback, defined at a position on the display screen overlapping a position of said word for playback on the display screen. The rollover region is configured to cause audible playback of the word in the on-screen language when at least a portion of the cursor is moved over the rollover region.

Siegel:

(8) SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

(10) It provides pervasive and immediate articulation of virtually all textual elements in response to a comparatively passive action, such as a selection device rollover, which creates a paradigm, that, rather than point-and-click, may be thought of as point, receive feedback, select. Point-and-click basically presumes that the user can read, and is aware of the selection before moving a pointing device to a selection. This technique provides children in particular, as well as others with limited textual knowledge of a language, or an impairment, the ability to peruse with their ears what readers peruse with their eyes.

(11) The present invention is embodied in a method for the auditory navigation of displayed text. According to this method, a plurality of words are displayed including at least one unit of contiguous text. Next, the method receives a first indication of a first word of the plurality of words, the first word being contained within a at least one unit of contiguous text. Responsive to the first indication, the method produces an auditory signal corresponding to a recitation of the first unit of contiguous text. The method receives a second indication of a second word of the plurality of words, the second word being contained within the at least one unit of contiguous text. Responsive to the second indication, the method produces an auditory signal corresponding to the pronunciation of the second indicated word.

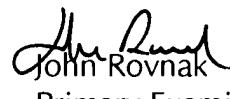
Claim 1. A method for the auditory navigation of text, comprising the steps of: displaying a plurality of textual items, each of the items containing a plurality of words; receiving passive indication of at least one item of the plurality of textual items; responsive to the passive indication, producing an auditory signal commencing articulation of the text of the indicated item to the exclusion of other items of the plurality of textual items.

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. See the patent to Brewster, Jr.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to John E. Rovnak whose telephone number is (703) 308-3087.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's acting supervisor, Jessica Harrison can be reached on (703) 308-2217. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


John Rovnak
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3714
